D. Bates & R. Christie: Respiratory Function in Disease
P. 158 Factors in chronic bronchitis (Saunders Phila.'64)

SMOKING

Two important aspects of this problem deserve emphasis. The first is whether a long history of cigarette smoking is ever found in association with completely normal respiratory function tests. The answer to this seems to be in the affirmative, and the study of chronic bronchitis in the Canadian Department of Veteran's Affairs contains two or three patients in whom this association was found. However, it is less certain whether the bronchial tree of these men would be free of the characteristic morphological changes of chronic bronchitis.

The second problem is whether typical chronic bronchitis ever occurs in people who have never been cigarette smokers. It seems clear that a few patients who have never been cigarette smokers exhibit the clinical criteria of chronic bronchitis (Ref. Anderson-Ferris-1962 Fletcher & Al. 1959 Dysinger 1963) though it is not certain that the pathological changes of chronic bronchitis have been observed in any subjects who were known not to have smoked. (Ref. Thurlbeck 1963 Reid 1960)

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